

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A digital camera comprising:
 - a taking lens;
 - an image sensor for receiving light from the taking lens to produce an image data;
 - a display for displaying the image data produced by the image sensor;
 - a recorder for recording the image data produced by the image sensor into a recording medium;
 - an instruction member for providing an instruction to record an image data into the recording medium;
 - an optical element disposed so as to be situated in an advanced position that intersects an optical path leading from the taking lens to the image sensor and in a retracted position that is off the optical path;
 - a finder for receiving light reflected at the optical element situated in the advanced position to provide a visible image;
 - a driver for moving the optical element to the retracted position when the instruction to record an image data is provided by the instruction member, and for moving the optical element to the advanced position after shooting of the image to be recorded into the recording medium is finished;
 - a memory for storing ~~[[an]]~~ the image data produced by the image sensor until the instruction by the instruction member is provided; and
 - a controller for displaying the image data stored in the memory on the display from the provision of the instruction by the instruction member to the end of shooting of the image to be recorded into the recording medium.

2. (Original) A digital camera as claimed in claim 1, wherein said optical element is a half mirror.

3. (Original) A digital camera as claimed in claim 1, wherein said memory stores the image data produced immediately before the instruction by the instruction member

4. (Original) A digital camera as claimed in claim 1, wherein said memory stores the image data when the image to be recorded into the record medium is shot, and said controller displays the image stored in the memory on the display until the movement of the optical element to the advanced position is finished.

5. (Original) A digital camera as claimed in claim 1, wherein said controller gradually changes the displayed image while the image stored in the memory is being displayed on the display.

6. (Original) A digital camera as claimed in claim 5, wherein said change in the displayed image data is a change in brightness or chroma of the image data.

7. (Currently Amended) A digital camera as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a switching member for switching a first mode in which the optical element moves to the retracted position and a second mode in which the optical element is held in the advanced position regardless of the presence or absence of the instruction by the instruction member.

8. (Original) A digital camera as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a sound indicator for notifying the timing of the recording of the image data to be recorded.

9. (Currently Amended) A digital camera comprising:

a taking lens;

an image sensor for receiving light from the taking lens to produce an image data;

a display for displaying the image data produced by the image sensor;
a recorder for recording the image data produced by the image sensor into a recording medium;
an instruction member for providing an instruction to record an image data into the recording medium; and
a controller for gradually changing a characteristic of the image displayed on the display for a predetermined period of time from the provision of the instruction by the instruction member.

10. (Original) A digital camera as claimed in claim 9, further comprising a memory for storing a latest image data produced by the image sensor until the instruction by the instruction member.

11. (Original) A digital camera as claimed in claim 10, wherein said controller displays the image data stored in the memory on the display for a predetermined period of time from the provision of the instruction by the instruction member.

12. (Original) A digital camera as claimed in claim 9, wherein said controller makes the largest change in the displayed image when the image to be recorded into the recording medium is shot.

13. (Original) A digital camera as claimed in claim 9, wherein said change in the displayed image data is a change in brightness or chroma of the image data.

14. (Currently Amended) A digital camera comprising:
a taking lens;
an image sensor for receiving light from the taking lens to produce an image data;
a display for displaying the image data produced by the image sensor;
a recorder for recording the image data produced by the image sensor into a recording medium;

an instruction member for providing an instruction to record an image data into the recording medium;

an optical element disposed so as to be situated in an advanced position that intersects an optical path leading from the taking lens to the image sensor and in a retracted position that is off the optical path;

a driver for moving the optical element to the retracted position when the instruction to record an image data is provided by the instruction member, and for moving the optical element to the advanced position after shooting of the image to be recorded into the recording medium is finished;

a memory for storing ~~[[an]]the~~ image data produced by the image sensor before the movement of the optical element; and

a controller for displaying the image data stored in the memory on the display when the optical element is moving.

15. (New) A digital camera as claimed in claim 9, wherein gradually changing a characteristic of the image comprises changing the brightness of the image data.

16. (New) A digital camera as claimed in claim 9, wherein gradually changing a characteristic of the image comprises changing the chroma of the image data.